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SUBJECT

Proposed Changes in Organization of Italian Superior Defense Council and Military Justice NO. OF PAGES 2

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

A usually reliable and well-connected source.

- A. Proposed Changes in the Superior Defense Council
 - 1. The Italian Superior Defense Council, according to the present law which describes its composition and functions, is made up as follows:
 - a) President: The head of the Government.
 - b) Members: The Ministers and some of the former limisters of War.
 - c) Secretary: A General who holds the position of permanent secretary.
 - At the present time an effort is under way to change the present organization of the Superior Defense Council. Recently Defense Minister Randolfo Pacciardi sent a letter to all the former Ministers of War and Defense who held office since 1944 (Allesandro Casati, Stefano Jacini. Cipriano Facchinetti and Luigi Gasparotto) urging them to express their views as to whether it would be advisable to attribute to the Minister of Defense the duties of Permanent Secretary of the Superior Defense Council. Minister Pacciardi's initiative in this respect has not created a favorable impression and has placed the recipients of the letters in an embarrassing position.
 - 3. At the present time the Secretary of the Superior Defense Council must fulfill two requirements:
 - a) He must be a tactician; and
 - b) He insures the necessary continuity of the work of the Council.

The proposed change would deprive the Superior Defense Council of these two functions.

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B. Proposed Reorganization of Wilitary Justice

- 4. A committee of twelve, including Hon. Mario Palermo, Hon. Pietro Calamandrei and Hon. Inigi Casparotto, is studying plans for the reorganization of Military Justice.
- During the last morting, the committee split into two groups:
 - a) One group (7 members) favored the continuance of the Supreme Malipary Tribunal; and
 - b) The other group (5 members) including Palermo and Calamandrei, advocated the suppression of the Supreme Military Tribunal and other reforms which in substance would have removed military personnel responsible for military crimes from the jurisdiction of military courts.
- 6. The results were reported to the Ednistry of Defense. The Keeper of the Seals has given his approval to the minority position.



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